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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 27, 2005

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Sen. Jelinek honored with education award from Delta Kappa Gamma

LANSING – Recently members of Delta Kappa Gamma named state Sen. Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, as the winner of their Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Alpha Iota State Distinguished Service award.

According to Joan Forburger, a Gamma Theta Chapter member, the society selects an individual that displays “service above self” to receive the award.

“Education is a top priority,” Jelinek said. “Every day in the Legislature I work hard to fight for students and teachers in the 21st Senate District and across the state. Delta Kappa Gamma is a staunch supporter of education. I’m honored to be recognized by such an outstanding group.”

Jelinek was selected for the award due to his hard work and dedication to educational matters, including his frequent meetings with local superintendents in the 21st Senate District, his visit to Volinia Alternative School and regular attendance of student honor nights.

“He is extremely giving of his time by attending meetings and student honor nights in order to stay in touch with students and educators,” Forburger said. “Education is obviously a personal priority in his life.”

Jelinek is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and serves as chair of both the K-12 School Aid and Education Subcommittee and Senate Community College Subcommittee. He is also a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of Natural Resources, is vice-chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and is a member of the Senate Policy Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism and the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Jelinek, also a 2003 recipient of the President’s award from the Michigan Teacher and Student Association, is a life-long resident of Berrien County, where he still resides on his family’s farm. Currently, Jelinek is a board member of Three Oaks Free Methodist Church and a member of the Berrien County Farm Bureau.

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